

# UTAH BOARD OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

## MEETING NOTES

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Committee</b>
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<b>Date:</b>	Thursday April 16, 2009	<b>Time:</b>	8:30 – 10:00 am	<b>Place:</b>	POST, SLCC Miller Campus 9750 South 300 West Council Meeting Room
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<b>Members Present</b>	Russ Van Vleet, Salvador Mendez, Manuel Romero, Fotu Katoa, Maria Garciaz, Det. Trudy Cropper, Shirlee Silversmith, and Judge Larry E. Jones
<b>Members Excused</b>	Holly Martak, Jerry Oler, Pat Berckman, and Debbie Rocha
<b>Members Absent</b>	Kris Shaw, Judge Leslie D. Brown, and Narda Beas-Nordell
<b>Staff &amp; Guest</b>	Guest: Major Scott Stevenson Staff: Reg Garff and Cuong Nguyen

<b>Agenda Item 1:</b>	<b>Welcome/Introductions – Maria Garciaz</b>
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pat Berckman was unable to attend the meeting due to schedule conflict. Maria was asked to Chair the meeting. Maria gladly accepted the invitation.</li> <li>Maria welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked DMC Members for accommodating the change in time and meeting place. DMC members introduced themselves as we welcomed and thanked Major Scott Stephenson, Director of POST, for hosting our meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Manuel motioned to pass the March 19, 2009 minutes; Salvador seconded; motion passed unanimously.</b></p>

<b>Agenda Item 2:</b>	<b>Utah Gang Conference – Report (Cuong &amp; Reg)</b>
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cuong reported attending the gang conference and found the conference to be informative and educational. Some of the workshops, Cuong and Reg attended were Refugee Gangs, Southeast Asian Street Gangs, Gangster in the Cage, and Bad Girls, Bad Girls, Watch Gonna Do? Violence Prone at-Risk Females.</li> <li>One of the workshops Reg attended was Faith-Based Solutions for At-Risk Youth, which was the first of its kind. He thought the workshop could have included other Faith-Based groups. (Fotu reported that it will in the future.) Another topic brought up in this discussion was how can the government support these Faith-Based organizations?</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda Item 2:</b>	<b>POST – Update</b>
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major Scott Stephenson welcomed the Subcommittee to POST. Major Stephenson provided an update on the minority youth scenarios, its applications, and collaboration with DMC Subcommittee for future works. Major Stephenson said that since the submission of the 3 minority youth scenarios by the Subcommittee last year, POST has added four more, making a total of 7 minority scenarios to train new cadets. Major Stephenson urged the Subcommittee to continue submitting scenarios, as it has been a valuable resource for POST. The Major also asked for essay scenarios. Essay scenarios are in written form for new cadets to research or learn through cultural experiences instead of role play.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Major passed out the Leadership, Ethnicity, and Professionalism training curriculum for Subcommittee members to see. POST uses this as cultural competency training. He said that the materials need to be updated. He mentioned that the cadets seemed to be more frustrated and confused afterward after receiving training on the topic. They tend to experience negative feelings after being trained on the topic. POST is looking to update the curriculum and is searching for positive solutions and tools officers can use while in the field. POST is open and willing to accept new cultural competency training and curriculum for cadets. POST is also willing to incorporate a 2 hours training slot (and possibly more) if the DMC Subcommittee is willing. <b>Major Stephenson reminded if the Subcommittee is willing to develop a cultural competency training curriculum, it must emphasize not how the cadets can tolerate, but learn how to accept and celebrate the differences in the diverse community they serve.</b> Major Stephenson also mentioned that POST doesn't have a designated Curriculum Developer, thus asked the DMC Committee to develop and teach the curriculum if they are willing.</li> <li>• Manuel shared that the State's Department of Human Services is developing a Diversity Website. Manuel wants to share if it's helpful for new Cadets, but they are still working on some roadblock on sharing the tool.</li> <li>• Major Stephenson asked if diversifying law enforcement staff really improves law enforcement in the community? Are there statistics that support this? Russ indicated he was unaware of any research supporting this presumption. He will, however, look into it to see if anything is available. Russ also recalled a report by the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice System that found that minority officers tend to be more strict, harder on their respective population than that of their Caucasian counterparts. The minority officer operates in an "if I can make, you can too!" mentality mind set. That piece of information never made it into the final report.</li> <li>• Suggested solutions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create a Working Group to discuss the development of cultural competency curriculum, training, and its effectiveness. Volunteers are: Russ, Pat, Trudy, Reg, Shirlee, Manuel and Cuong. Judge Jones offered review of the material after it's done.</li> <li>2. Reg recommended looking at other states, such as Connecticut to see if they have similar curriculum.</li> <li>3. Judge Jones recommended getting in touch with Diane Hamilton and former Chief Justice Mike Zimmerman for input in cultural competence curriculum. Cuong will follow up with contact information.</li> <li>4. Cuong will follow up with Major Stephenson to present DMC Message and findings.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>Action: Cuong will schedule a meeting regarding the cultural competency curriculum development.</p>
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<b>Agenda Item 3:</b>	<b>Racial Data Entry – Update – Gerry Oler</b>
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jerry asked to be excused for this meeting. Cuong reported that the preliminary report for FY08 suggested the number of "unknown" in the CARE database has significantly improved from 25% in FY07 to about 7% for FY08. We will ask Jerry</li> </ul>

	to continue working with the Court to improve this data.
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<b>Agenda Item 4:</b>	<b>2009 DMC Works – Progress Report</b>
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DMC Message Development Working Group – Manuel The group has setup a meeting for Wed. April 22 to identify the audience, purpose, and who among Subcommittee members will present.</li> <li>Utah County DMC Working Group – Jerry is not available to update on this issue.</li> <li>Weber County DMC Working Group – Cuong Meeting was held April 7 with the Trail Court Executive, Probation Chief, Diversion Supervisor, Deputy Probation Chief, and DMC Subcommittee members. Various possible contributing factors were discussed such as truancy cases being referred back to schools (it takes up to 3-4 episodes before the case is petitioned), truancy mediation program, peer court, and community services. Personnel who handle these diversion cases can make their decision if cases are Class B or lower offenses. Class A requires supervisor input. Another explanation for low diversion in Weber County may be due to the high gang population. Gang related crimes are charges as Class A or higher and must be petitioned (not divertible). The meeting note will be send to Subcommittee members later. A follow up meeting is scheduled for May 27 at 9:00am and a presentation to Juvenile Judges Bench Meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 15 at 9:25am. DMC Message Development Working Group is invited to attend the meeting,</li> <li>DMC Data Analysis Working Group – Jerry Jerry is not available to report on this. The Working Group will continue to meet on the needed basis.</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda Item 6:</b>	<b>Rights of Juvenile Defendants Video – All</b>
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion took place regarding the use of this video in the juvenile justice court. There seem to be logistical problems. The Subcommittee agreed on a Pilot Program for the Fourth District Court. We were waiting for Jerry to put in a proposal for the Fourth District. The Subcommittee realized that this is a pilot program and recognized that each district may have different needs; thus the Subcommittee will look at this one district at a time.</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda Item 7:</b>	<b>Other Business</b>
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will come back to regular meeting time in May.</li> </ul>

**The next meetings are scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2009 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the Capitol Complex, Senate Building, First Floor, Spruce Room.**